

REMARKS

The Office Action of October 3, 2001, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that claim 6 is objected to for containing various informalities.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) over the patent to Miller.

In view of the Examiner's objection to and rejection of the claims applicant has cancelled claim 6.

With the cancellation of claim 6 it is respectfully submitted that the objection to this claim as containing informalities is overcome and should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims presently on file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly advantageous manner from the constructions disclosed in the reference.

Turning now to the reference, it can be seen that Miller discloses a supporting and driving frangible roller. The roller of Miller is intended for supporting and transporting glass sheets in a heating tunnel. A ceramic cylinder 31 is supported on shafts 19, 20 made of invar steel by a cylindrical inner end portion 38 of the shafts 19, 20. Miller deals with the problem of mounting the ceramic sleeve 21 to the shafts 19, 20 so that the shafts and the cylinder body 31 remain fixed at high temperatures in spite of the differences in thermal expansion of the ceramic material and the metal material due to the high temperatures.

Miller provides absolutely no disclosure concerning a printing unit cylinder for a rotary printing machine. One skilled in the art would find no suggestion or motivation for a printing unit cylinder from the teachings of a support roller for heat treating glass sheets as disclosed by Miller. The present invention deals with specific problems associated with cylinders

in a rotary printing machine caused by heating of the cylinder. The problems with such heating and localized expansion are discussed on pages 2 and 3 of the specification of the present application. There is no teaching or acknowledgement by Miller of these types of problems nor is there any suggestion by Miller for a construction of a printing unit cylinder which would address these problems. The presently claimed printing unit cylinder will deform only slightly under conditions where regions of the cylinder are heated to a greater extent than other regions of the cylinder. The low co-efficient of expansion results in the regions on the cylinder having the greater temperature expanding only slightly more as compared to the regions on the cylinder having a lower temperature. As a result, the minor deformation of the cylinder has little or no influence on ink transferring thus causes little or no impairment of the printing quality. As a result of this low bending of the transfer cylinder, during operation of the printing unit the pressure on the rubber blanket increases only to an insignificant degree with the associated induction of heat. Thus, deformation or bending of the printing unit cylinders does not escalate. Once again there is nothing in the teachings of Miller which would motivate one skilled in the art of printing unit cylinders to construct a printing unit cylinder as recited in the presently claimed invention. Miller in no way addresses printing unit cylinders and thus does not acknowledge the problems being solved by the present invention nor does he provide any suggestion for the construction of a printing unit cylinder which would address these problems.

In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 1-12 under 35 USC 102(b) over the above-discussed reference is overcome and should be withdrawn.

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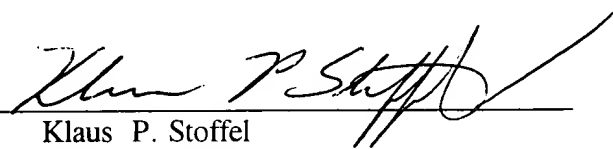
Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application; however, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,

COHEN, PONTANI, LIEBERMAN & PAVANE

By

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Klaus P. Stoffel', is written over a horizontal line.

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